

CLAIMS

Therefore, having thus described the invention, at least the following is claimed:

- 1 1. An interdiscal tensiometer, comprising:
2 a load measuring means for measuring load between two points; and
3 a distance measuring means for measuring distance between said two
4 points.

- 1 2. An interdiscal tensiometer, comprising:
2 a pair of primary members being hingedly fixed together, each one of said
3 pair of primary members having a contact tine;
4 a tension measuring device for measuring load said contact tines;
5 a distance measuring device for measuring distance between said contact
6 tines;
7 wherein said contact tines are adapted to engage a pair of intervertebral
8 bodies such that said load measuring means can measure a load therein and said
9 distance measuring means can measure a distance therebetween.

- 1 3. A method of using an interdiscal tensiometer, comprising the steps of:
2 a pair of primary members being hingedly fixed together, each one of said
3 pair of primary members having a contact time;
4 inserting each of said contact tine between at least two vertebral bodies;
5 measuring a load between said at least two vertebral bodies; and
6 measuring a distance between said at least two vertebral bodies.